

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 238082

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S - FWISNER:GFH

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S -O:LRMACFARLANE

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Z 250107Z SEP 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE FLASH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 238082

NODIS

CHEROKEE FOR THE CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT KHAMA

1. PLEASE DELIVER TO PRESIDENT KHAMA THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE
FROM PRESIDENT FORD.

2. BEGIN TEXT: I HAVE JUST RECEIVED WORD OF IAN SMITH'S
STATEMENT IN SALISBURY AND WANT TO TELL YOU HOW PLEASED
I AM THAT THE DECADE OLD DREAM OF ZIMBABWEAN INDEPENDENCE
IS ON THE VERGE OF BEING REALIZED AND THAT AN ISSUE SO
IMPORTANT TO YOU AND THE FUTURE OF AFRICA IS FINALLY ON
THE ROAD TO SOLUTION.

3. I AM SATISFIED THAT THE CONDITIONS FOR A SETTLEMENT
HAVE BEEN LAID AND THE DOOR IS OPEN FOR STATESMEN LIKE
YOURSELF TO BRING THE PROCESS TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION.
THERE IS NOW AN OPPORTUNITY FOR AFRICANS TO WORK TOGETHER
TO BRING ABOUT A SETTLEMENT IN PEACE AND WITHOUT FOREIGN
MILITARY INTERVENTION.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 238082

4. I AM ESPECIALLY GLAD THAT THE IDEAS WHICH PRESIDENTS

KAUNDA AND NYERERE ADVANCED FOR A SETTLEMENT AND THE
ADVICE YOU GAVE MY SECRETARY OF STATE AND HIS EMISSARIES

CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROPOSALS WHICH THE RHODESIAN AUTHORI-
TIES ACCEPTED. THIS IS AS IT SHOULD BE; AS I AM SURE YOU
AGREE IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF AFRICANS, AND AFRICANS
ALONE TO DESIGN THE FUTURE OF THEIR CONTINENT AND SOLU-
TIONS TO ITS PROBLEMS. THE UNITED STATES IS PLEASED TO
HAVE PLAYED A PART IN HELPING TO BRING MATTERS THIS FAR.
I UNDERSTAND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL CONTACT YOU
AND YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO DEVELOP WAYS TO
BEGIN THE NEXT STAGE -- DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN RHODESIANS
WITH A VIEW TO ORGANIZING AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT FOR RHO-
DESIA. WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER OUR SUPPORT TO WHATEVER
COURSE OF ACTION YOU BELIEVE IT IS ADVISABLE FOR US TO
TAKE.

5. I HOPE THAT ADVANTAGE WILL BE TAKEN RAPIDLY OF THIS
UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY BY ALL THE PARTIES, AND THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS
WILL BE PURSUED IN THE SPIRIT OF MAGNANIMITY.
I AM SENDING SIMILAR MESSAGES TO THE OTHER FRONTLINE
PRESIDENTS. YOU HAVE MY BEST WISHES IN THE DECISIVE
WEEKS WHICH LIE AHEAD. SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD. END
TEXT.

KISSINGER

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TAGS: OVIP, PPDC, PDEV, BC, RH, SF, US, UK, (KHAMA, SERETSE M), (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (FORD, GERALD R)
To: GABORONE
Type: TE
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